

Community Residential Recovery Group
February 22, 2006

Scott Thompson, Michael Sabourin, Nick Emlen, Michael Hartman, Roxie Moran, John Howland, Paul Landerl, Linda Corey, Bonnie Haskins Tom Simpatico, Anne Jerman, Wendy Beinner

From Greensboro - Kathy Unser, Dave Perham, and Andrea Perham

Updates:

Beth Tanzman sent regrets for her absence, but she had to attend another meeting at the Retreat re inpatient architectural issues.

A+ architectural meeting yesterday for the new inpatient design. Generally this is in process and the complimentary actuarial projection is as well, with the latter due near the beginning of April

There is a whole committee Futures meeting on February 24 to address issues regarding the process of the group and how it might be improved or altered.

A brief discussion was held regarding the general function of the Futures mission in terms or replacement of VSH services. This included inpatient and community program participation. Linda C pointed out that there is not a public engagement on the plans at all the community locations where a proposal might be presented. The general issue of planning for community input and how to keep horses in front of carts was discussed. Scott pointed out that wherever programs are placed there is a need to have maximum contact with persons in the communities, especially in terms of stigma issues. However some felt there are issues with state presence. Some thoughts are that the state should have no or very low profile in the community dialogue.

There were also comments regarding how the issue of civil commitment and/or sexual offender issues are getting involved in discussions of Community Recovery Residences. The concern is that without good upfront community discussions the general public cannot make the distinction that the CRR's are not the same population.

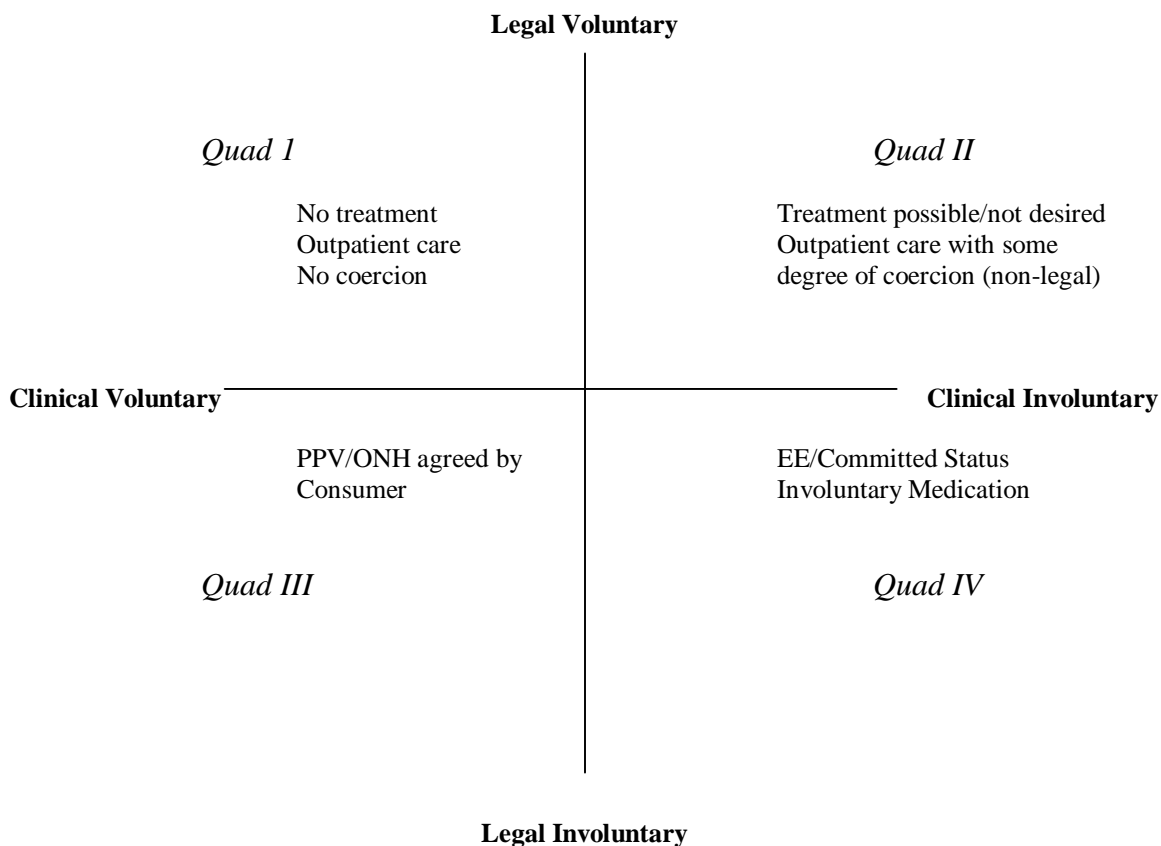
Kathy pointed out that in Greensboro now there is an ongoing discussion that is about persons with mental illness with some residents self disclosing and supporting the concept of community based recovery. There was a good review of how to balance the issue of knowledge of community and the needs of individual privacy for CRR residents..

CRT Directors have agreed and System of Care Management Committee has reviewed an evaluation tool that is a mix of a variety of current evaluation tools. Both VSH and some DA's have discussed using this tool as a common definition for levels of care at facilities and levels needed by individual consumers. Ongoing reporting on its use will be brought to various committees. The hope is that this tool could be used by all sending and receiving facilities.

A meeting of the ONH subgroup that developed from the February 1 meeting will be held on March 22 10-11:30 at the Hanks Building in Waterbury. Jack McCullough (MHLPP), Wendy Beinner and Kristin Chandler (AG's office), Lee Suskin (Court), Nick Emlen, Michael S, Linda C, and Laura Ziegler, will be attend to discuss how to better facilitate ONH and revocation processes.

A brief discussion of the Quadrant developed in the last meeting and Act 114 followed.

Voluntary Involuntary Status



Wendy noted that ONH status should be understood as a committed status so should be understood as existing in Quad III as well as Quad IV. Generally comments on using this tool to describe involuntary and voluntary status were positive.

The question of locked and secure facilities arose out of this discussion. Nick noted that perhaps this area could also use some dimensional definition as the needs to be capacity to lock doors, but not all the time. Kathy offered that material by NKHS indicated that Greensboro facility doors would be capable of locking. It was noted that the "freedom to ingress and egress should be determined by individual need, while a range of egress options capabilities should exist." Further explained this meant that persons should come and go as needed on an individual basis, and a range of options for this be developed and understood by residents.

Discussion ensued on various aspects of programming and medical and support needs. The group recommitted its agreement with individualized recovery-based care.

Next meeting is 3/15/06 at 9:00 at the WCMHS Moody Court offices in Waterbury, These offices are located on the backside of the Rusty Parker Park on Main St, in the Green Building to the right of the Railroad Station. Phone for directions: 839-0332.